

PROCLAMATION 4121

National Defense Transportation Day and National Transportation Week, 1972

April 7, 1972*By the President of the United States of America*

A Proclamation

"How is it that we can send men to the moon, yet we cannot manage our problems of transportation here on earth?" That is a question we often hear as each year it seems that less time is needed to fly around the world, and more time to drive to work.

If we have the will, we can subdue these transportation problems. The same American technology that opened wide the door to space travel, can be harnessed both to relieve the inadequacies of our domestic transportation system and to provide for future transport needs. With careful planning and conscientious direction, our technology can develop new ways to move people and goods. Thirty years ago, the idea of sending men to the moon seemed impossibly visionary. Thirty years from now, I predict, new forms of transport will be operating which seem today as unrealizable as lunar space travel once was.


From May 27 through June 4, 1972, an exposition of advanced transportation technology, called TRANSP0 '72, will be staged at Dulles Airport near Washington, D.C. I encourage all Americans to attend this display, and to experience an exciting forward look at transportation concepts, designs and systems for meeting the challenges of the twenty-first century.

In recognition of the importance of our transportation system, the Congress, by joint resolutions approved May 16, 1957, and May 14, 1962, requested the President to proclaim annually the third Friday of May each year as National Defense Transportation Day, and the week of May in which that Friday falls as National Transportation Week.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RICHARD NIXON, President of the United States of America, do hereby designate Friday, May 19, 1972, as National Defense Transportation Day, and the week beginning May 14, 1972, as National Transportation Week. I urge the people of the United States to observe this period with appropriate ceremonies in recognition of the importance of our transportation system to our lives and national

defense, and as a tribute to the men and women who make possible the movement of people and goods throughout our land and abroad.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this seventh day of April, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred seventy-two, and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred ninety-sixth.



PROCLAMATION 4122

Pan American Day
and Pan American Week

By the President of the United States of America

April 10, 1972

A Proclamation

Eighty-two years ago this spring, the first International Conference of American States was completing its work in Washington. The hopes which millions of people throughout the Western Hemisphere held for that conference were voiced in these words of a leading churchman of the day, Edward Everett Hale: "We trust that the American Congress, representing North and South America, will address itself squarely to some * * * practicable system, not content with general statements * * * of the folly and cost and horror of war."

While the hemispheric court of arbitration for which Hale specifically argued was not created at that time, a "practicable system" was—the system which we now call the Organization of American States. And down all the decades since, that system has increasingly fulfilled the hopes of its founders for modes of cooperation and unity which should make peace permanent and war obsolete among the sister republics of the New World.

Today the Organization of American States stands as the oldest continuous regional body in the world, and one of the most vigorous and progressive as well. Geography, history, shared traditions of self-government, and common interests in the world give a special depth and durability to international ties in the Americas. The OAS, in turn, gives those ties structure, substance, and a strong arm for action.

It is an organization based on a workable combination of idealism and realism; on a capacity to grow and adjust with the times; and on the principle that all nations, large and small, are juridical equals, each

2 UST 2394;
21 UST 607.